



MAYOR DEKE COPENHAVER

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Press Release

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Re: Mayor Copenhaver's Radio Show 'Augusta Today and Tomorrow'

Mayor Copenhaver, through the generosity of Radio One, is hosting his own monthly interview show. The sixth show was taped today and will be broadcast Sunday, July 30 on:

6:00 am Magic 96.9

7:00 am Foxie 103.1

5:30 pm WTHB FM 100.9

This month's guest was Commissioner "Coach" Holland, County Commissioner for District 5. The focus of the conversation was community redevelopment in South Augusta. Both men attended the groundbreaking last week of the Dover Lyman Neighborhood Redevelopment and commended Commissioner Jimmy Smith for the work he has done to redevelop a once thriving neighborhood. Commissioner Holland is working with a group called the *Center City South Augusta Development Initiative* which will be a public/private partnership that focuses on bringing businesses, apartment complexes, recreational activities, entertainment and other services to South Augusta.

Another topic close to both men's hearts is the issue of keeping our youth in Augusta. We have great educational venues, Augusta Tech, ASU, Paine College, but there is a lack of job opportunities once these students leave college. We need to provide opportunities for our best and brightest, so they can become the future leaders of Augusta. By focusing on economic growth, therefore increasing the tax base, we will be able to find solutions to issues such as these.

Commissioner Holland and Mayor Copenhaver both are supporting the idea of Tax Allocation Districts. This would provide districts where the city would freeze property taxes to give developers incentive to develop low-income areas.

The show ended with Commissioner Holland and Mayor Copenhaver talking about what an exciting time to be in Augusta, there is a lot of interest in our town and they are happy to be part of the growing momentum of change.

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